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THE COST OF HATRED

Cities such as New York stepped up security around religious centers after Saturday's Pittsburgh synagogue massacre, which resulted in 11 deaths. 4

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5 THINGS TO KNOW

WELCOME TO METRO PHILLY

JEFF TOMKO, NEWS EDITOR

From pipe bombs mailed to prominent Democrats to the murders of 11 worshippers in a Pittsburgh synagogue and the near-fatal shooting of a Republican congressman, America is experiencing a disturbing uptick in extremism behavior. The violence, interwoven with hate speech (anti-Semitic, anti-immigrant, anti-feminist, anti-liberal democracy), is the very definition of ultranationalism. This nonstop barrage of vitriol and hyperbole gives the extremists a safe haven which isn't safe for democracy or the American people.

08 DAYS

2018 MIDTERM ELECTIONS

1 TWO WINNERS IN $688M POWERBALL JACKPOT

Are you a newly minted millionaire? The winning numbers for the estimated $687.8 million Powerball jackpot, the fourth largest in the lottery's history, were drawn Saturday night. The numbers are 8, 12, 13, 19, 27 and Powerball of 04. Two winning tickets were announced early Sunday, one sold in Iowa and a second in Harlem. No winners immediately stepped forward. More winning tickets could be announced as results come in overnight. This is the second astronomical lottery draw this week, with the $1.537 billion Mega Millions lottery drawn on Tuesday with one winning ticket sold in South Carolina. The winner or winners of the Mega Millions $2 ticket have not yet stepped forward publicly. The prize is just shy of the world record. The winners of Saturday's Powerball will have the option of sharing an immediate cash payment of $198.1 million each, sharing the $687.8 million prize paid out over 29 years, or a separate combination of the jackpot, according to the lottery. The lottery was previously estimated at $750, but the adjusted numbers early on Sunday are based on actual ticket sales, the lottery announced.

2 MORE EL SALVADOREAN MIGRANTS AIM FOR US

A new group of migrants bound for the United States set off from El Salvador on Sunday, following thousands of other Central Americans fleeing poverty and violence who have taken similar journeys in recent weeks. The group of more than 300 Salvadoreans left the capital, San Salvador, on Sunday. A larger group of mostly Hondurans, estimated to number at least 3,500, who left their country in mid-October and are now in southern Mexico, have become a key issue in U.S. congressional elections. A third group have been moving through Guatemala, at one point numbering more than 1,000 people before beginning to fragment. Hundreds of that group broke through a Guatemala border gate in Tecun Uman, and on Sunday afternoon were on the bridge into Mexico. President Donald Trump and his fellow Republicans have sought to make immigration a major issue ahead of Nov. 6 elections, in which the party is battling to keep control of Congress. Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen on "Fox News Sunday" said Trump was determined to use every authority he has to stop immigrants from crossing the border illegally.

3 EAGLES VS. JAGUARS

Wendell Smallwood of the Eagles breaks free to score a touchdown during the NFL International Series game against the Jacksonville Jaguars at Wembley Stadium on Sunday in London. The Eagles defeated the Jaguars, 24-18. *Read more on Pages 22-23.*

GETTY IMAGES

4 CHINESE CARRIER ROCKET FAILS TO REACH ORBIT

A privately developed Chinese carrier rocket failed to reach orbit after lifting off from Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center on Saturday, in a blow to the country's nascent attempts by private companies to rival Elon Musk's SpaceX. The three-stage rocket, Zhuque-1, was developed by Beijing-based Landspace. The company said in a microblog post after nominal first and second stages that the spacecraft failed to reach orbit as a result of an issue with the third stage. "Before Zhuque carrier rocket was launched, its mission was already completed," the company said in the post on Saturday, without giving further details. Landspace was founded in 2015 and soon aimed to be the first Chinese private company to deliver a satellite into orbit. The company said it was the first private licensed company in China to launch carrier rockets. Zhuque-1 was carrying a satellite named "Future" built for state media China Central Television. In May, China launched "Chongqing Liangjiang Star" into space, the first rocket developed by Beijing-based private firm OneSpace Technology.

5 LEICESTER CITY OWNER ON CRASHED HELICOPTER

Leicester City soccer club owner Vichai Srivaddhanaprabha, a Thai tycoon, was among five people on board a helicopter that crashed and then exploded after a Premier League match on Saturday, a source close to the club said. Also on board were two pilots and one other person whose identity were not immediately known, the source said on Sunday. The source also named a fifth person on board. There was no confirmation that anyone on board survived, the source said. Leicester police said inquiries into the crash would continue. Srivaddhanaprabha is a huge favorite with the club's fans after he bought the unfancied side from central England in 2010 and they went on to stun the soccer world by beating odds of 5,000-1 to win the Premier League title in 2016. In Thailand, officials at King Power said they could not yet comment on the crash or say whether Srivaddhanaprabha had been aboard when it spiraled out of control and crashed shortly after taking off around an hour after the game. The club has not commented on the details of the crash.

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Pittsburgh synagogue victims include 97-year-old, pair of brothers

New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio blasted the president's claim that armed guards might have prevented Saturday's massacre.

Following the killing of 11 worshippers at a Pittsburgh synagogue on Saturday, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo and New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio directed state police and the NYPD to increase patrols around Jewish centers and houses of worship across New York state.

"We, as a nation, must stand together and stand against the corrosive and destructive forces of hate in all of its forms," said Cuomo in a statement.

"The New York family grieves for those who were killed and prays for those who were injured in this heinous and horrific mass shooting at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh," said Cuomo. "And we stand together with the Jewish community in this difficult time as we always have before."

De Blasio expressed disdain for President's Trump's suggestion that if the synagogue had had an armed guard, the loss of life would've been more limited. "Let's be clear," de Blasio tweeted on Sunday, "suggesting a house of worship should have had armed guards is blaming the victims, and that's not America. That's not our values."

The suspected gunman, 46-year-old Robert Bowers of Pittsburgh, stormed the building during a Saturday morning service. He also wounded six others including four police officers before being arrested.

Bowers, who has made anti-Semitic posts online and, during the attack, shouted about killing Jewish people, has been charged with federal hate crimes and could face the death penalty. He will appear before a judge on Monday afternoon, U.S. Attorney Scott Brady said at a news conference.

"The fact that this attack took place during a worship service makes it even more heinous," Brady said.

The Tree of Life Synagogue in the city's Squirrel Hill neighborhood, a heavily Jewish area, was holding a Shabbat religious service when the gunman burst in.

Five of the victims lived in Squirrel Hill and the rest were from other Pittsburgh neighborhoods and communities surrounding the city.

The mass shooting prompted security alerts at houses of worship around the country and condemnation from politicians and religious leaders.

"We'll get through this darkest day of Pittsburgh history by working together."
Bill Peduto, Pittsburgh mayor

It followed a spate of pipe bombs found mailed in recent days to prominent political figures, mostly Democrats including former President Barack Obama, ahead of Nov. 6 congressional elections.

"We'll get through this darkest day of Pittsburgh history by working together," the city's mayor, Bill Peduto, told reporters.

David and Cecil Rosenthal, 54- and 59-year-old brothers; Sylvan Simon, 86, and his wife Bernice Simon, 84; Joyce Fienberg, 75; Richard Gottfried, 65; Jerry Rabinowitz, 66; Daniel Stein, 71; Melvin Wax, 88; and Irving Younger, 69, were killed, according to officials.

The oldest victim was Rose Mallinger, 97, of Squirrel Hill. REUTERS

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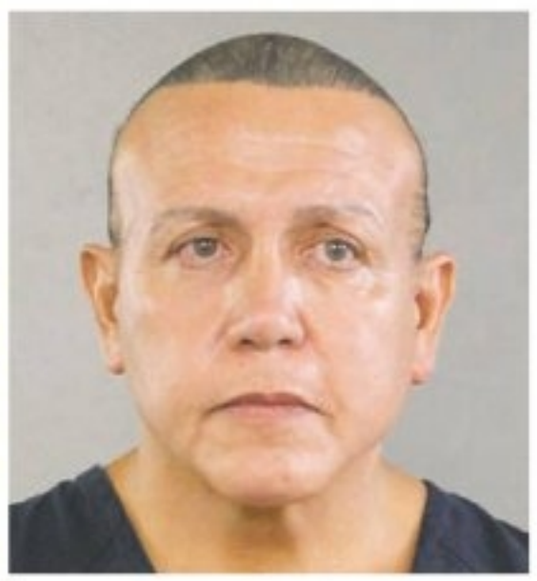

An FBI agent leaves the AutoZone store in Plantation, north of Miami (left). | Cesar Sayoc (right). GETTY IMAGES

Florida man charged after bombs sent to Trump critics

The bodybuilder and former stripper could face up to 48 years in prison if convicted.

The Florida man suspected of mailing at least 14 pipe bombs to some of President Donald Trump's leading critics was in custody on federal charges on Saturday, in a case reflecting the rancor of one of the most toxic election campaigns in decades.

Cesar Sayoc, 56, a part-time pizza deliveryman, grocery worker and former stripper once charged with threatening to bomb an electric company in a billing dispute, was arrested by federal agents outside an auto parts store in Plantation near Miami on Friday.

Authorities also seized a white van that Sayoc appeared to have used as his dwelling, its windows plastered with pro-Trump stickers, the slogan "CNN SUCKS" and images of Democratic leaders with red crosshairs over their faces.

Fingerprint and DNA evidence helped identify the suspect, but his arrest did not necessarily end the threat, Federal Bureau of Investigation Director Christopher Wray warned at a news conference. He said other packages may still be in transit.

Sayoc was charged with five felony counts, including interstate transportation and illegal mailing of explosives, threatening a former president, making threatening interstate communications and assaulting federal officers.

He was expected to be held at the Federal Detention Center in downtown Miami and make his first appearance before a judge on Monday, according to former Assistant U.S. Attorney David Weinstein. If convicted, Sayoc could be sentenced to up to 48 years in prison, officials said.

One federal law enforcement source told Reuters that authorities were investigating whether other individuals were involved and did not rule out further arrests.

Sayoc's arrest followed a four-day manhunt sparked by the discovery of bombs concealed in packages addressed to leading Democratic figures including former President Barack Obama and former first lady and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, whom Trump defeated in the 2016 presidential race.

Some of the parcels also contained photographs of the intended recipients marked with a red X, according to a criminal complaint in Manhattan federal court.

The complaint accused Sayoc of sending 13 bombs to 11 individuals, starting with billionaire Democratic donor George Soros. A package surfaced on Monday near his home in Katonah, New York.

A 14th package was found on Friday at a post office outside San Francisco addressed to another wealthy contributor to the Democratic Party and liberal causes, Tom Steyer.

The bombs were sent in manila envelopes lined with bubble wrap and consisted of plastic 6-inch pipes packed with explosive material and wired to small clocks and batteries, the complaint said.

A native of Brooklyn and a registered Republican, Sayoc made his political views evident on social media. In Facebook and Twitter posts, he railed against Democrats, Muslims and liberals.

Public records showed numerous arrests over the years for domestic violence, theft and other charges, including the alleged bomb threat against a utility company.

All the individuals targeted by the packages Sayoc is accused of sending have been outspoken critics of Trump and his administration, foils for the president and his right-wing supporters, or both.

REUTERS

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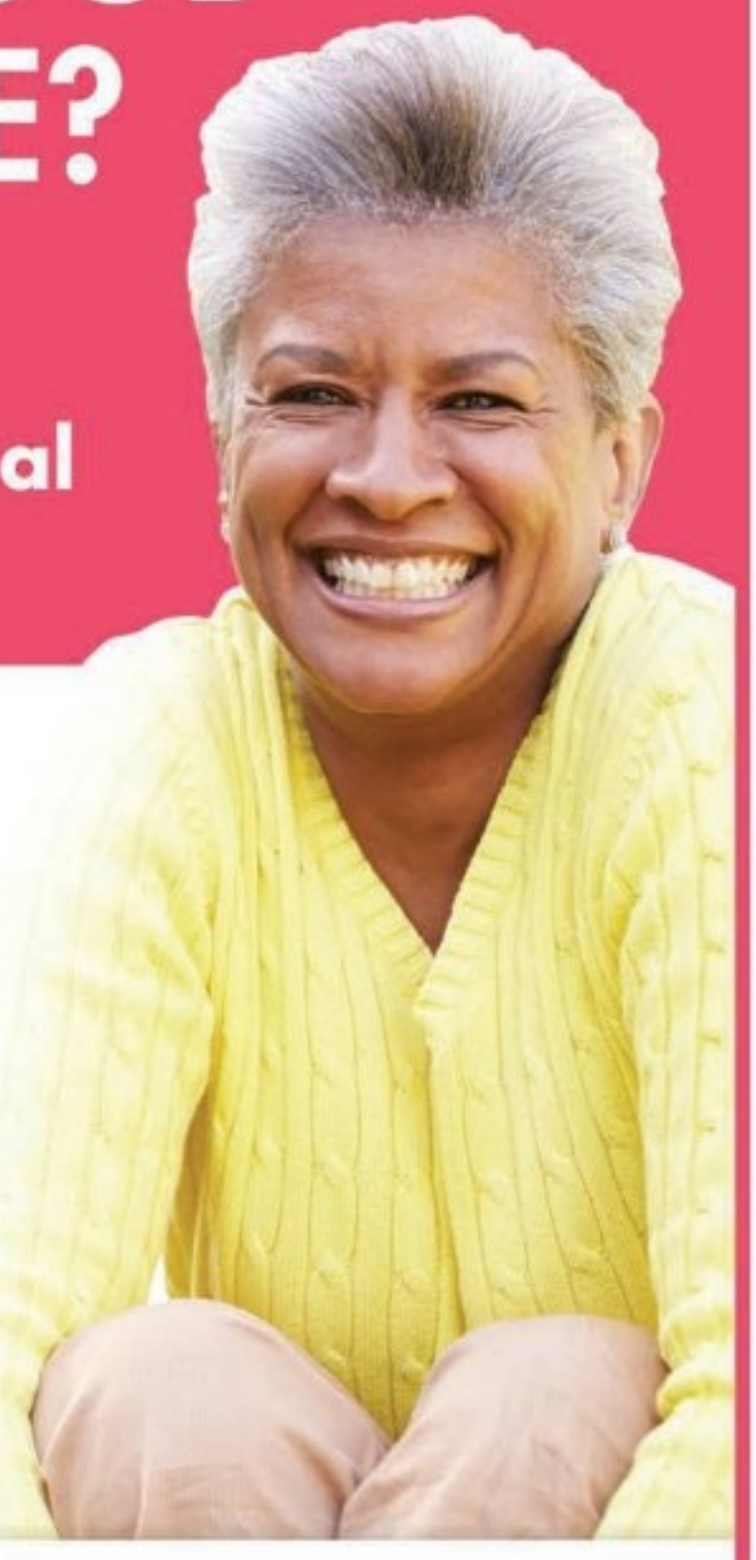

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Philadelphians to bring real issues 'On the Table'

Philadelphians chat during a May 2017 On the Table Philly event held at Reading Terminal Market. HAYDEN MITMAN

How do you gauge the authentic mood, the needs, the feelings of a community? One idea is On the Table, the civic-engagement program that returns to Philly on Nov. 8 to stimulate conversation among citizens about real social issues, without politicians and VIPs.

Kicked off in May 2017, the first On the Table Philly brought together 2,000 people to 150 different discussions — and surveys showed residents who didn't know each other were brought closer together by the event, and began forming plans to take new civic action.

"The big takeaways were that there was an appetite in the Philadelphia community for doing this sort of citizen-led activity," said Pedro Ramos, president and CEO of the Philadelphia Foundation. "At its core, what we're doing is promoting a way of people engaging among themselves. It is only as powerful as the drive of citizens looking for opportunities to improve their communities and have discussions with people they otherwise might not have discussions with."

Data, surveys, and information garnered during the 2017 On the Table Philly, funded by the Knight and Philadelphia foundations, replicates a successful model previously held among thousands of residents in Chicago in 2014.

Organizers found the bulk of On the Table participants were interested primarily in subjects advancing public safety, education, and economic growth and inclusion. Ramos attended seven different conversations around Philly in 2017 and noted that 75 percent of the attendees participated in conversations with people they had never met or spoken to before.

"Almost two-thirds said they came out with some concrete idea that they didn't have before about things that they could do to have an impact," Ramos said. "It really shows leadership doesn't require titles or organizations, it just requires people — hosting a discussion is itself is an act of leadership. It's really the core leadership that makes communities strong."

"The big takeaways were that there was an appetite in the Philadelphia community for doing this sort of citizen-led activity."

Pedro Ramos, president and CEO, Philadelphia Foundation

Registered hosts and participants will be eligible to apply for an "Activate" mini-grant of up to $1,000 to implement one of the ideas emerging from their group's discussion. The grants will be administered by the Philadelphia Foundation and the Philadelphia office of the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), a national nonprofit community development organization.

"The money is about taking things beyond the table," Ramos said. "It's for people that, following their On the Table discussion, want to take the discussion to a different place or follow up, and would be able to do it but for having a few hundred dollars to take things to another place."

To host your own discussion, potentially win a grant, or find a discussion to join, visit onthetablephl.org/.

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SHOWBOAT GALLERY SITE IMAGE

Bart Blatstein is a 'Showboat,' and that's a good thing for Atlantic City

The Philadelphia developer is converting a Showboat tower's worth of rooms at his non-casino Atlantic City hotel into apartments.

A.D. AMOROSI
letters@metro.us

Philadelphia developer Bart Blatstein is spending his Halloween in two ways. As the new president of the Friends of Rittenhouse Square, he's hosting the "Little Friends" Halloween Parade.

As the developer who all but created Northern Liberties — in the past, with his famous remake and remodel of the 28-acre Schmidt's Brewing Company factory into his retail, restaurant, and apartment complex Piazza; in the present, with his upcoming Piazza Terminal — Blatstein is currently tending to his 2016 purchase: Atlantic City's Showboat Hotel and Casino.

While he renovated and reopened the Showboat that same year as a non-casino hotel, he's now looking to convert one of its three towers into an apartment building. Blatstein's hopefully soon-to-open apartment complex, in the 20-story tower nearest Pacific Avenue, will hold 264 units (a combo of studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments) according to his application presented at last week's hearing with the land use department of NJ's Casino Reinvestment Development Authority. This would leave the Showboat with 1,000 hotel rooms.

"The hearing went well, and the CRDA is very receptive to investment in Atlantic City, especially non-gaming," he said.

Blatstein's Showboat might not be a casino (yet), but he is gambling on Atlantic City's need for contemporary housing much in the same way he did with Northern Liberties — to place much-needed light where once there was darkness and blight.

"I saw no reason why Atlantic City couldn't be great," said Blatstein, who began his AC buying spree with the Garden Pier and his conversion of the Pier Shops at Caesars into his Playground, which currently houses the One Atlantic event space and Stephen Starr's AC outlets of Buddakan and Continental.

He owns non-deed restricted land on the Boardwalk between Showboat and the new Ocean Resort Casino. Blatstein gambled that Atlantic City could be great beyond its casinos. And why not? "It's within a tankful of gas away from 30 percent of the nation's population. It's faster to get to AC from Manhattan than it is the Hamptons, and an hour away for Philly people. It's got an ocean, a boardwalk, an airport, and — though a small town of 39,000 people — the infrastructure of a large city."

Blatstein is not prepared to say anything about his Garden Pier or Caesars Pier purchases. Same with his recent request to the state's Division of Gaming Enforcement for a statement of compliance demonstrating that he holds a property that could be used as a casino within a three-year period, be it at the Showboat or someplace else.

"I am currently going through a process to be licensed — for me to be licensed," is all he can say on that matter at the moment. Blatstein famously already went through this process ("and was licensed") in Pennsylvania when he sought to open a Philly casino.

But for now, Blatstein is Showboat-ing.

"I amassed a lot of real estate around the Showboat, including the Showboat," he said. "That area, the South Inlet, used to be a bustling, mixed-use neighborhood, residential and commercial. I used to go to Captain Starn's

Bart Blatstein. TWITTER IMAGE

SHOWBOAT GALLERY SITE IMAGE

(a restaurant with boat rides and attractions like seal feeding) as a kid. It's a great area. When I got the Showboat, I remembered that, and realized that it allowed for diversity of uses. Its three towers are spread out. I can build retail there, and apartments going for market rate. It's walkable there, unlike other parts of AC where casinos back up to the side streets and... now are just back ends of the casinos, the service parts. The South Inlet where I'm at with Showboat can be a walkable community."

The last time Blatstein used the word "community" was when he was starting his Piazza at Schmidt's project in 2000. "You are correct," he said. "My goal there was to create a walkable community."

Blatstein can go and do as large in AC as he did in NoLibs as the landmass is similarly sized, around 30 acres. Showboat is also close to all mass transit: jitneys, buses and the train station.

"The challenge is always of highest and best use," he said. "It took me a minute to get my sea legs, to get the ebb and flow of AC, the opportunities that exist. This area is urban, remarkable, and with a $3 billion anchor I have 8,000 employees within blocks of me here. I'm building a 14,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art fitness facility and a co-working space to go with the apartments that should be ready for summer. There's four 350[-space] parking spaces. I'm building in services, and building up the area as there's little there now. I'm just trying to figure what additional services we can use — just as with Northern Liberties."

"I'm building in services, and building up the area as there's little there now. I'm just trying to figure what additional services we can use."

Bart Blatstein

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Philadelphia cyber charter schools are changing the way children join the classroom

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PAT KING
patrick.king@metro.us

It seems as though remote access has changed the way that business is done throughout the world. Being able to have meaningful discussions with people on the other side of the planet from you is as easy as flipping open the lid to your laptop. This access has also changed the way students learn today, as more and more colleges are introducing online courses to their curriculums. It seems as though this trend is making its way down to the earlier stages of education, as Philadelphia and its surrounding areas are now seeing more completely off-site and remote cyber charter schools offering programs for children of all ages.

Renowned PA Cyber Charter School was Pennsylvania's first all-remote cyber charter school providing education from kindergarten to 12th grade. This school built its reputation on a model that allows students to learn from any location they chose and completely skirts the idea of being relegated to a certain level of education simply by where you live. Students can enroll from anywhere as long they have access to an internet connection to join in and participate in classes being taught by state-certified teachers. While this may seem ideal for many students, this level of freedom can lead to distractions for many.

"If you are in a home atmosphere, you have to have self-discipline," explains Christina Zarek, who is the director of communications at Lincoln Learning Solutions, which helps to develop and deliver the curriculum for PA Cyber. "Just like anything else really, cyber school is not for everyone and brick-and-mortar schools are not for everyone. But as [Brian Hayden] the CEO of PA Cyber always says, like many kids that are enrolled in PA Cyber there as many different reasons for them having chosen PA Cyber. I think it really does get kids into that mindset of 'I really can do this from home!' You have a phone, you have a computer, you have the technology and research tools at your fingertips. If you have the will, you can accomplish a lot."

As Benjamin Ozgur, marketing specialist for the neighboring 21st Century Cyber Charter School sees it, these cyber charter schools will

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provide students with all of the resources and opportunities to excel in a more flexible academic environment. It is just up to them to be able to seize on this type of freedom to make the most of learning remotely.

"Some students perform way better compared to a brick-and-mortar setting and some can't get the grasp and they leave after a while," explains Ozgur. "It works perfectly for some students because it's exactly what they are looking for. Motivation and determination are key from the student's standpoint."

"If you are in a home atmosphere, you have to have self-discipline."

Christina Zarek, director of communications at Lincoln Learning Solutions

The 21st Century Cyber Charter School has even made it easier for its students who may have chosen this style of program, because of busy outside athletic or artistic training, to connect with their teachers and finish assignments on their own time. While the school is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, students have the option to connect with their teachers up until 8 p.m. in order to stay on track with their studies.

So while you may be in the midst of applying to different charter schools for your children for the 2019-20 school year, you may want to consider these remote options.

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Why low student-to-teacher ratio classrooms matter in charter schools

Make sure your child has enough one-on-one time with their teachers.

PAT KING
patrick.king@metro.us

Many charter schools are now accepting applications for the 2019-2020 school year for students of all ages. As this frenzy to get your child accepted into the perfect charter school begins to heat up, it can be easy to lose sight of some of the simple things that could help your child thrive academically. One of these aspects is making sure that your child is enrolled in a program that offers the perfect low student-to-teacher ratio in each classroom.

According to a study performed by the Public School Review, students from kindergarten to third grade had the greatest amount of academic achievement in classes with no more than 18 students per teacher. The study also found that these students go on to perform much better the longer they are exposed to this kind of classroom environment. This kind of

Independence CHARTER SCHOOL WEST

2019-2020 Applications are available now online and at the school for grades K-6

5600 Chester Avenue 19143

2019-2020 Student Lottery Information ICS-West Application deadline:

Friday, February 1, 2019 at 2pm EST

The lottery drawing will take place on Friday, March 1, 2019 at 5pm in the school's gym 5600 Chester Avenue.

It is open to the public.

www.icswest.org

ALL PHOTOS ISTOCK

data only supports the benefits of keeping a low student-to-teacher ratio in classrooms. And with how important this time is for a student's overall development, it should make this a large priority for parents looking to enroll their children in charter schools.

Brown University found that children rarely seem to vary from their learning habits and understanding of their responsibilities after the age of nine. This means that they are firmly rooted and dead set on their ways of approaching tasks and schoolwork by the third grade. As the old saying goes, you can't teach an old dog new tricks. But by building on the habits they have learned from an early age in smaller classrooms, they will only continue to thrive.

So by having more direct time with teachers, students in low student-to-teacher ratio classrooms will be able to understand what is expected of them and their bad habits will be able to be spotted by their teachers and corrected in more constructive ways. Plus, this kind of environment will give your child a chance to shine and build stronger connections with a smaller group of children.

While you are looking ahead to applying to charter schools for the 2019-2020 school year, finding charter schools in Philadelphia with low student-to-teacher ratios should be at the top of your list. Certain schools may have specific focuses and concentrations outlined in their curriculums, with smaller class sizes to help with your child's overall focus and concentration.

For more on charter schools, see Page 16.

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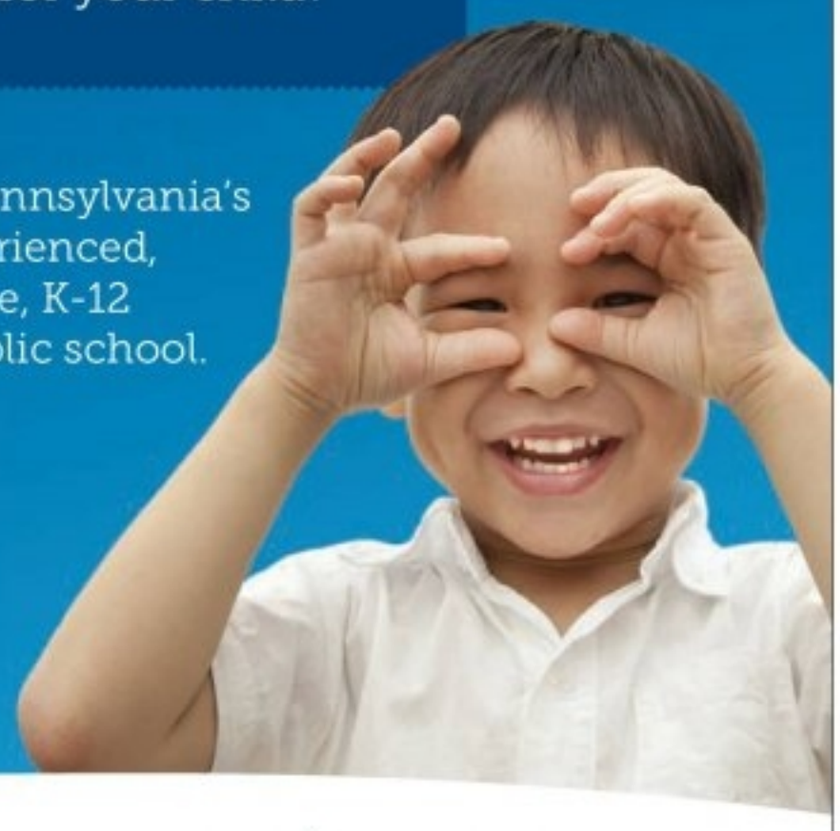

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Independence
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2019-2020 Applications will be released on
January 1, 2019 online or at the school for grades K-8
1600 Lombard Street 19146
2019-2020 Student Lottery Information ICS-Center City
Application deadline:
Friday, March 1, 2019 at 2pm EST
The lottery drawing will take place on
Tuesday, March 19, 2019
at 5pm in the school's cafeteria 1600 Lombard Street.
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WORKSHOP: GENDER IDENTITY FOR FAMILIES
2PM @ Christ Church Neighborhood House

MONDAY, NOV. 5

FOURTH QUARTER, Day 1
7PM @ Christ Church Neighborhood House

TUESDAY, NOV. 6

FOURTH QUARTER, Day 2
7PM @ Christ Church Neighborhood House

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 7

FOURTH QUARTER, Day 3
7PM @ Christ Church Neighborhood House

FELONIOUS MUNK, Day 1
7PM @ FringeArts Building

THURSDAY, NOV. 8

FELONIOUS MUNK, Day 2
7PM @ FringeArts Building

ONCE IN A LIFETIME
7PM @ Christ Church Neighborhood House

FRIDAY, NOV. 9

FELONIOUS MUNK, Day 3
7PM @ FringeArts Building

HUNGRY LIVE
7PM @ Free Library of Philadelphia

SATURDAY, NOV. 10

WORKSHOP: PODCASTING 101 - ART OF STORYTELLING
11AM @ Christ Church Neighborhood House

WORKSHOP: TELLING YOUR STORY ON ONLINE DATING
2PM @ Christ Church Neighborhood House

BARRACOON: THE STORY OF THE LAST "BLACK CARGO"
7PM @ University of Pennsylvania

NOV. 11-12

PA'LANTE
7PM @ FringeArts Building

TUESDAY, NOV. 13

APPLIED STORYTELLING SLAM
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NOV. 14-16

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What is a charter school and why should you enroll your child in one?

That's a pretty good question!

Before you start to think about looking at different schools for the 2019-2020 school year, you should really understand the basics of what a charter school really is.

In basic terms, a charter school is a publicly funded school that was formed by parents, teachers, or any other community group. These schools closely follow the state and national government standards required to receive funding to function, but also maintain a level of autonomy to focus and teach certain concentrations.

The creative aspects of these schools and their smaller-sized classrooms tend to be the main reasons why parents try to apply for slots at charter schools rather than choosing the standard public route. After all, these schools are also free for children to attend — it just takes knowing whether choosing a charter school over the public option is right for your child. **PAT KING**

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Pat King
Grumble Editor

READER WRITE-INS:

HOLIDAY MUSIC ALREADY????
Heard in CVS today: holiday music, even before it's Halloween!!! That condemns us to 60 more days of these tunes, unfortunately. I complained at the register and was told it's "Corporate's" decision. Don't they realize it may discourage some customers? Thanks for listening.
— **Barbara Reed**, *Metro US reader*

ISTOCK

BACKPACKS TAKE UP TOO MUCH SPACE ON THE TRAIN
Honestly, I don't even care how big the backpack is, that's your and your chiropractor's problem. My problem is, this is already a packed train, so take your damn backpack off so more people can fit on. I don't want my backpack on the floor, either. But if anybody is like me, I just want to get to my location without waiting for another train due to the current one being filled by imaginary space. *Inserts rolling eyes emoji.*
—**Jessica**, *Metro US reader*

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The winning caption from James B., *Metro Philly reader* ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Getting upset will not help a situation you face at home or work. Take care of your responsibilities and move on to something you enjoy doing. Physical activity will relieve stress.

Taurus A change will do you good. Schedule a business trip or meeting, or sign up for a course that will add to your qualifications. A positive change will lead to solid relationships.

Gemini Don't let others get you down. Put on a happy face and do something you enjoy. A good workout will help clear your head so that you can move forward with confidence.

Cancer Share your feelings with a loved one. Make arrangements that will push you to get out more and participate in events that will help you advance.

Leo Watch your step. If you make a snap decision, you will end up regretting it. Don't take on too much or make promises you cannot keep. Don't disregard someone's complaints.

Virgo If you say what's on your mind, positive change will result. Take control of whatever situation you face so that you can make a difference. Love and romance are encouraged.

Libra Personal improvement should be your focus. Taking better care of your health through proper diet and exercise will bring positive results in every aspect of life.

Scorpio Stay focused on what's important. Refuse to let anyone bait you into an argument. Expand your knowledge to gain insight into what's important. Romance is favored.

Sagittarius Consider what others say, but don't act on what you hear. Go to the source to validate information you receive. Protect yourself against being misinterpreted and don't be a conduit for false information.

Capricorn Share your feelings and thoughts with the people who will be affected by the decisions you make. Being open to change will help you clear up misconceptions.

Aquarius Do your own thing, instead of giving in to someone else's pressure. Put your energy into constructive projects that are geared toward self-improvement.

Pisces Participate in events that will allow you to show off your skills, knowledge and experience. You'll make a good impression that will lead to an offer you cannot refuse.

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'House of Cards' showrunners talk season 6 and whether a woman will ever be president

Metro kicks off "House of Cards" Week with our first interview about the final season of the hit Netflix drama. DAVID GIESBRECHT/NETFLIX

Melissa James Gibson and Frank Pugliese discuss the ups and downs of Claire Underwood's turn in the White House.

ANDREW HUSBAND
letters@metro.us

At the very end of "House of Cards" season 5, disgraced former President Frank Underwood (Kevin Spacey) calls his successor and wife, President Claire Underwood (Robin Wright), from his Washington D.C. hotel room. Instead of answering she ignores her husband's call, turns to the camera and says, "My turn."

According to showrunners Melissa James Gibson and Frank Pugliese, it was this pivotal turn in the story — and not Spacey's firing from the show after sexual misconduct allegations against him were made public — that informed everything that will happen in the upcoming season 6, which debuts on Netflix Friday, Nov. 2.

"This whole story was set in motion when a man was passed over for power," Gibson tells Metro. "It's about what got unleashed as a result, and all the things that occurred as a result of that. It all

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Frank Pugliese and Melissa James Gibson. GETTY IMAGES

spiraled out of control and ended up involving a lot of people.

"Is this world or this country, both the real ones and those in the world of the show, ready for a female president?" Gibson goes on to ask. Pugliese happens to agree and ponders whether "the powers that be in this country and elsewhere [will] ever let a woman have power."

"The show began with a man being passed over, but the question now is, will they let a woman have it?" he continues, while adding that, in the duplicitous and dangerous world of Netflix's "House of Cards," that doesn't necessarily mean that Claire is a character without sin. "There's no one woman. I mean, a woman in power is not just one thing. We have a number of characters on the show that exhibit this.

"Besides," adds Pugliese, "it would have been weird for Claire to succeed without using the rules of the show. She's using the rules first established by Beau Willimon, the original British adaptation and the Michael Dobbs novel it's all based on. That's what makes her a success, in our eyes."

And that, the showrunners contend, is where the real meat of the final season of "House of Cards" resides. President Claire Underwood must overcome not only the long shadow cast by her publicly disgraced husband, but the equally shadowy endeavors of her few remaining allies and the many enemies who lie in waiting and are ready to pounce. So there's obviously going to be a lot of nostalgia in season 6 for all of the longtime viewers, because some of the series' most deeply buried skeletons are about to resurface with a vengeance.

"We just wanted to end the story properly and with integrity," Gibson concludes. "We wanted to bring it to a brave, surprising and inevitable close. We wanted to play off all the promises that were made before, of course, but also give the fans a satisfying ride along the way."

The sixth and final season of "House of Cards" streams Friday on Netflix.

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6 Things to do in Philly this week

Mix your favorite Halloween candies with alcohol, eat some delicious pies, and more.

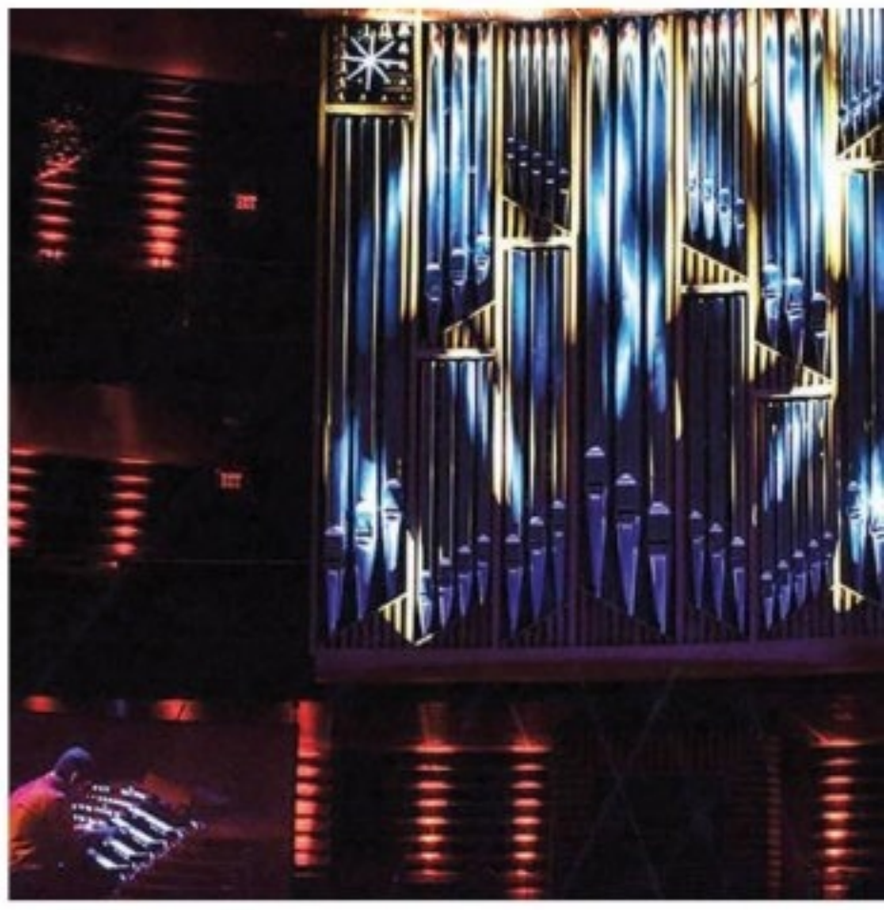
MOLLY GIVEN
molly.given@metro.us

Looking for some fun and unique events in Philly this week? We've got you covered.

PV on Tap
This is the second installment of PV on Tap for Pizzeria Vetri, this time with Neshaminy Creek Brewing Co. Guests can come decked out for Halloween and win prizes for best-dressed, plus enjoy autumnal brews from Neshaminy Creek and fall-themed food specials like the zucca pizza with roasted butternut squash, chestnut pesto, fried sage, mozzarella and parmigiano, and a pumpkin pie rotolo featuring pumpkin, mascarpone, sweet ricotta and walnuts.
Oct. 30, 6:30 p.m., Pizzeria Vetri, 1615 Chancellor St., pizzeriavetri.com

Pie Day at the Ritz-Carlton
Nov. 1 is officially Pie Day in Philly. MANNA is hosting this event, where pie samples and light refreshments will be served. You can also support MANNA by purchasing some delicious Pie in the Sky pies online. Pie choices include American Airlines Sky Pie, Aberdeen Standard Apple, Berry, Pecan, Pumpkin and Sweet Potato.
Nov. 1, 12:30-1:30 p.m., The Ritz-Carlton, 10 Ave. of the Arts, mannapies.org

"Routes of Slavery" at the Annenberg Center
Grammy Award-winning early music interpreter Jordi Savall makes his Philadelphia debut with the acclaimed program "The Routes of Slavery." Joined by artists representing Europe, Africa, and the Americas, Savall explores the music "through which enslaved peoples preserved their own humanity, forged a sense of community, and found a way to endure."



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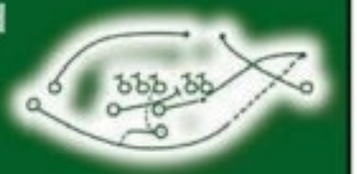

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The Philadelphia Orchestra celebrates Halloween.

The performance will be preceded by a talk on slavery by Dr. Kathleen Brown, David Boies Professor of History at the University of Pennsylvania. There will also be a free performance of the show for college students, at 12:30 p.m.
Nov. 1, 7:30 p.m., Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, 3680 Walnut St., $29- $75, annenbergcenter.org

Beer, Booze and "Boo"s at the Philadelphia Brewing Co.
Philadelphia Brewing Co. is partnering with Bluebird Distilling for this event that will be held in the Kensington brewery's newly opened bar, the Peacock Room. Both teams will be pairing their beloved childhood Halloween candy with their favorite adult beverages. The pairings are pay-as-you-go and include tasty creations like Four Grain Bourbon + Hershey's Kisses or Snickers Bar, American Wheat Whiskey + Caramel Creams, Vodka + Thin Mints or Junior Mints, Rye Whiskey + Twizzlers, Kenzinger + M&M's, and much more.
Oct. 29, 6-8 p.m., Philadelphia Brewing Co., 2440 Frankford Ave., philadelphiabrewing.com

Organ and Orchestra Halloween at the Kimmel Center
Experience the spooky and moving sounds of the Philadelphia Orchestra, who will quite literally play the part in Halloween costumes. Highlights include Bach's "Toccata and Fugue in D Minor" and Gounod's "Funeral March of a Marionette." Stick around after the concert for their signature "organ pump" experience — come up and lie down onstage to feel the vibrations from the king of instruments.
Oct. 30, 7 p.m., Kimmel Center, 300 S. Broad St., $36, tickets.philorch.org

"Once More, With Pheeling: A Buffy Halloween Celebration"
"Buffy the Vampire Slayer" lovers, rejoice: The Philly Improv Theater is showcasing "Buffy" like you've never seen it before. "Once More, With Feeling" is the only episode of the supernatural-drama TV series performed as a musical, exploring changes in the relationships of its characters. *Oct. 31, 10-11 p.m., Philly Improv Theater, 2030 Sansom St., $5-$18, phillyimprovtheater.com*

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Eagles grab much-needed 'W'

The Birds' defense comes up big in a 24-18 victory in London.

JOVAN ALFORD
jovan.alford@metro.us

After a disappointing fourth-quarter collapse last Sunday to the Carolina Panthers, the Philadelphia Eagles were able to outlast the Jacksonville Jaguars in a tough, hard-nosed battle at Wembley Stadium on Sunday for a 24-18 victory.

Eagles quarterback Carson Wentz and the offense did not get off to a great start as they had two early turnovers. However, Philly's defense held firm, only allowing a Jacksonville field goal to give them an early 3-0 lead.

Eventually, both sides of the ball got their act together and started to make plays led by the young guys.

Rookie tight end Dallas Goedert scored the Eagles' first touchdown of the game, while safety Avonte Maddox made a couple of great plays and running back Josh Adams ran well between the tackles.

With the win, the Eagles are now 4-4 heading into a much-needed bye week as they lost both right tackle Lane Johnson and cornerback Jalen Mills to injuries. Johnson reportedly suffered an MCL tear in his left knee and could be out for an extended period of time.

Philly also increased their chances to make the playoffs (32 percent) and ultimately win the NFC East (11 percent) with this victory.

Here are three takeaways from Sunday:

1. Defense stands tall

The Eagles' defense has been under intense scrutiny this season for their lackadaisical and low-IQ plays on the field. If the defensive line is not putting pressure on the opposing team's quarterback, then it leaves their secondary to get picked apart.

However, on Sunday the defense stepped up big time and kept the Jags' offense in check for a majority of the game.

Despite not forcing Bortles into a mistake, the Eagles' defense sacked the quarterback four times and made him the only practical rushing threat. Veteran defensive end Chris Long had two of those sacks, which were huge as the Eagles lost Derek Barnett to a season-ending injury last week.

As a team, they held Jacksonville to 70 yards on the ground, with Bortles contributing 43 yards.

In regards to the Jaguars' passing game, Philly's defense did not give up many big plays, but got hurt in the third quarter when Bortles found wide receiver Dede Westbrook for an 11-yard touchdown reception.

On this particular play, safety Malcolm Jenkins fell for a double-move by Westbrook, which has been the secondary's kryptonite this season and allowed for an easy score.

But that was the only real noticeable blemish as in the second quarter, rookie Avonte Maddox laid a nice hit on wide receiver Keelan Cole, causing him to fumble.

This performance was a nice confidence booster

Zach Ertz hauls in a touchdown pass Sunday at Wembley Stadium. GETTY IMAGES

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for the Eagles' defense as they certainly needed it following last week's debacle.

2. Adams leads the way

With the NFL trade deadline looming, there is a slight chance that the Eagles might make a move to acquire another running back. However, undrafted free agent Josh Adams did a fine job on the ground on Sunday to quell those rumors.

From the start, it was clear that Adams was running the ball with toughness and physicality. Heading into this week's contest, the Jaguars had the 25th-ranked run defense, giving up 121.9 yards per game.

Adams did not reach that mark by himself, but played a huge role in helping the Eagles gain 133 rushing yards. The former Notre Dame standout racked up 61 rushing yards on nine carries for a ridiculous yards-per-carry average of 6.8.

The last time an Eagles running back had an average that high, with close to 10 carries, you have to go back to the Super Bowl when LeGarrette Blount had 90 yards on 14 carries for 6.4 ypc and Ajayi had 57 yards on nine carries for 6.3 ypc.

Along with Adams, Wendell Smallwood also made his impact felt in the game, scoring a 36-yard touchdown reception in the third quarter.

If the Eagles cannot acquire a running back for a reasonable price at the deadline, then they should feel confident in the young trio of Adams, Smallwood and Corey Clement. While neither of them will rip off 100-yard rushing performances, they each know their role and play it well.

3. Matthews steps up

Just like Josh Adams, Jordan Matthews did an excellent job on Sunday to shut down the rumors of the Eagles needing to acquire another wide receiver by the trade deadline.

Matthews led the team in receiving with four receptions for 93 yards. In a game where people were looking at the matchup between Alshon Jeffery and Jalen Ramsey, the Jags did not have an answer for Matthews.

To begin the game, Matthews made his presence felt immediately as Wentz somehow hit him in stride while falling down for a first down.

Then, in the waning moments of the fourth quarter, where the Eagles needed to put the game away, Wentz found his reliable target sitting wide open in the Jaguars' zone for a first down.

Even though he does not have the vertical speed that Philly is wanting, Matthews still plays a key role in the offense. He knows where he needs to be when he sees Wentz scrambling out of the pocket and is a solid run blocker.

Matthews is showing that he warrants more opportunities in the passing game, and if he replicates this performance more often, then the Eagles' offense will be scary down the stretch.

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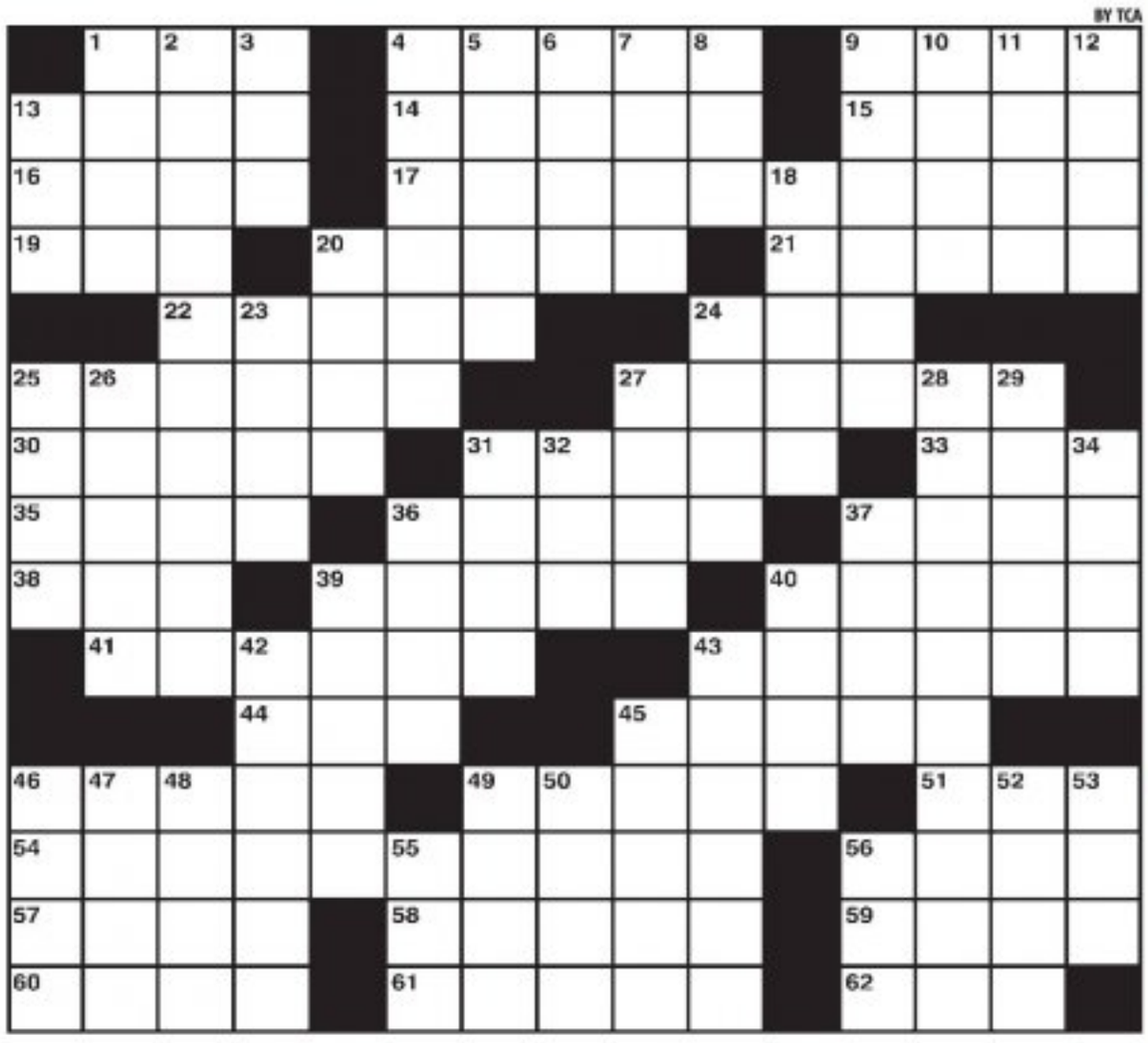

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ACROSS

ACROSS
1 Pen name
4 Quarrels
9 Upper limbs
13 Musical group
14 __ cotta; clay for patio pots
15 Jeff Bridges' brother
16 Comedian Johnson
17 Get well
19 Word of mild surprise
20 Zebra's cousin
21 Acting parts
22 Lunch hours
24 __ man; unanimously
25 PG, PG-13, or R, e.g.
27 Intelligence
30 Nimble
31 Prayer before meals
33 Nov. honoree
35 Experts
36 Ice cream maker handle
37 Greek cheese
38 Part of a royal flush
39 Use a pepper mill
40 Not urban
41 __ de corps; camaraderie
43 Eggplant's color
44 Scientist's workplace
45 Tripoli's nation
46 Remove the lid from
49 Hoodlums
51 Hemingway's "The Old Man and the __"
54 Leading the way
56 As slippery __ eel
57 __ more; again
58 Funeral song
59 Group of cattle
60 Orderly
61 Drive too fast
62 Burro

DOWN

1 Uncovered
2 Objectives
3 File drawer, perhaps
4 Powerful
5 Equals
6 Rainbows
7 Word of agreement
8 Gullible fool
9 Overseas
10 Authentic
11 Partner
12 Files a civil action against
13 Sack
18 Uneven
20 Sharpen
23 Lubricates
24 Lyme disease spreader
25 Engrossed
26 Concur
27 Magician's rod
28 Highways that cross above others
29 Tin or silver
31 Fortitude; tenacity
32 Trotted
34 Yarn
36 Baby's bed
37 Wrath
39 Juice flavor
40 Massages
42 Mercury, for one
43 __ out; overate
45 Sudden forward rush
46 "Once __ a time..."
47 Morning hour
48 Comic actress Imogene
49 Stumble
50 Take on employees
52 All __; listening
53 Connecting word
55 Sullivan and O'Neill
56 "Caughtcha!"

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